



LIVING AMONG LIONS

(UNDER PRESSURE IN LIFE) PART THREE
WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH YOUR LIONS? DANIEL 6:12-22

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.

Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com. This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the Old Testament on page 634.

STUDY SECTION

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN

1. In our public lives, PURITY should be our goal.
2. In our private lives, PRAYER should be our habit.
3. Under pressure: God's PRESENCE will be our protection.

A. The Plot against Daniel (vv. 1-9)

Daniel 6:4-5, NLT -⁴ Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy. ⁵ So they concluded, "Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion."

B. The Prosecution of Daniel (vv. 10-14)

Daniel 6:10-14, NCV -¹⁰ Even though Daniel knew that the new law had been written, he went to pray in an upstairs room in his house,

which had windows that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day Daniel would kneel down to pray and thank God, just as he always had done. ¹¹ Then those men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. ¹² So they went to the king and talked to him about the law he had made. They said, "Didn't you sign a law that says no one may pray to any god or human except you, O king? Doesn't it say that anyone who disobeys during the next thirty days will be thrown into the lions' den?" The king answered, "Yes, that is the law...of the Medes and Persians (which) cannot be canceled...."

C. The Punishment of Daniel (vv. 15-18)

Daniel 6:15-16, NLT -¹⁵ In the evening the men went together to the king and said, "Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed." ¹⁶ So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you."

D. The Protection of Daniel (vv. 19-22)

Daniel 6:19-22, NLT -¹⁹ Very early the next morning...²⁰...When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?" ²¹ Daniel answered, "Long live the king! ²² My God sent his angel [Heb. מַלְאָךְ lit., messenger; "a supernatural being, sent as a messenger and/or representative to do God's bidding; here in Daniel...to rescue and bring protection from imminent danger" (BDLHebr); same root word in Ch. 3, cf., "Son of God"] to shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found [lit., declared] innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty."

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

1. There will be lions you must face!

1 Peter 5:8, NASB95 -⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2. There is HIS PRESENCE you must find!

Revelation 5:5, NIV84 -⁵ Then one of the elders said..."Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed....He is here....

3. Jesus is still taming lions today!

2 Timothy 4:17-18, JBP -¹⁷ But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength, He protected me so that I might preach the Good News in its entirety for all the Gentiles to hear. And he rescued me from the lion's mouth—certain death. ¹⁸ Yes, and the Lord will deliver me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into his heavenly Kingdom. All glory be to our God! Amen and Amen!